

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0075

S E C R E T SECTO 01072

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PO

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S TALK WITH ANTUNES

1. SECRETARY MET FOR AN HOUR WITH ANTUNES LAST NIGHT AFTER GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER REPORTED THAT ANTUNES WOULD WELCOME SUCH A MEETING. (ANTUNES ACCOMPANIED ONLY BY MAEGELHES CRUZ.) ANTUNES, IN ANSWER TO THE SECRETARY'S REQUEST FOR A DESCRIPTION OF EVENTS IN PORTUGAL, GAVE AN ACCOUNT WHICH STRESSED NECESSITY FOR AFM TO CONTROL THE SITUATION AND THUS PREVENT POLITICAL PARTIES FROM DESTROYING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A DEMOCRATIC, SOCIALIST STRUCTURE. HE SAID THAT HE AND OTHERS IN THE AFM WERE AWARE OF THE DANGERS OF COMMUNIST ACTION. HE FELT THAT THIS DANGER COULD BE CONTROLLED IF AFM STAYED OUT OF AND ABOVE POLITICS. ANTUNES ALSO SAID THAT PORTUGAL COULD BE BRIDGE BETWEEN EUROPE AND THIRD WORLD. HE COUPLED THIS WITH STRONG STATEMENT OF A DESIRE TO REMAIN IN NATO AND BE PART OF EUROPE.

2. SECRETARY ASSURED ANTUNES THAT THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS A DEMOCRATIC PORTUGAL AND RECOGNIZES THAT SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRE TIME FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SUCH A STRUCTURE. BUT THE SECRETARY FRANKLY EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN THAT NO MATTER WHAT INTENTIONS OF SOME OF AFM MIGHT BE THERE APPEARED TO BE A REAL

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DANGER THAT ANTI-DEMOCRATIC FORCES WITH STRONG

COMMUNIST SUPPORT WOULD MOVE PORTUGAL TOWARD LEFT
DICTATORSHIP. SECRETARY ALSO SAID THAT WE HAD TO BE
CONCERNED IF NATO MEMBER ADOPTED CONSISTENT ANTI-
AMERICAN POLICIES AND TOOK THE STANCE OF A RADICAL
THIRD WORLD GOVERNMENT. WE DID NOT EXPECT PORTUGAL
ALWAYS TO AGREE WITH US. HE ASSURED ANTUNES THAT THE
UNITED STATES WISHED FOR AN ECONOMICALLY PROSPEROUS
PORTUGAL. HE DECRIED CHARGES BY RESPONSIBLE LEADERS
THAT THE U.S. WAS LEADING PLOTS OR ECONOMIC BOYCOTTS.
ANTUNES SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE SUCH CHARGES. SECRETARY
ALSO SAID THAT IT WAS UNACCEPTABLE TO HAVE ATTACKS ON
OUR EMBASSY AND PERSONNEL.

3. SECRETARY SAID THAT HE WELCOMED THIS BRIEF MEETING,
LOOKED FORWARD TO THE NATO MEETING AND INVITED THE
FOREIGN MINISTER TO COME TO WASHINGTON AT A MUTUALLY
CONVENIENT TIME LATE IN THE SUMMER OR FALL.
KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

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